

IMPORT SPECIALIST

CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION

Few vacancies in the following locations:

- 📍 Mobile, AL
- 📍 New Orleans, LA
- 📍 Newark, NJ
- 📍 Queens, NY
- 📍 Memphis, TN
- [More Locations \(1\)](#)

Work Schedule is Full Time - Permanent

Opened Monday 7/27/2015
(477 day(s) ago)

🔴 Closed Wednesday 7/29/2015
(475 day(s) ago)

Salary Range

\$31,944.00 to \$51,437.00 / Per Year

Series & Grade

GS-1889-05/07

Promotion Potential

11

Supervisory Status

No

Who May Apply

United States Citizens

Control Number

410460400

Job Announcement Number

MHCDE(ACWA)-1460436-MMS

Job Summary

Customs & Border Protection (CBP): Securing America's Borders

Do you desire to protect American interests and secure our Nation while building a meaningful and rewarding career? If so, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is calling. DHS components work collectively to prevent terrorism, secure borders, enforce and administer immigration laws, safeguard cyberspace and ensure resiliency to disasters. The vitality and magnitude of this mission is achieved by a diverse workforce spanning hundreds of occupations. Make an impact; join DHS.

Discover a challenging and rewarding career in CBP, the sole organization responsible for securing the nation's borders. At U.S. Customs and Border Protection, we:

- Screen passengers, vehicles, and shipments entering our country
- Seize illegal narcotics, vehicles, and agricultural products
- Prevent unauthorized entry into the country
- Rescue individuals who fall into dangerous conditions traversing our border

For more information about CBP's mission, activities, and careers, please see <http://www.cbp.gov/>.

Joining the Customs and Border Protection Office of Field Operations will allow you to use your technical and administrative expertise to safeguard the U.S. commercial supply chains. This position starts at a salary of \$31,944 (GS-05 step 1) with promotion potential to GS-11. Apply for this exciting opportunity to strengthen homeland security by enforcing import laws related to international trade agreements, admissibility standards and revenue collection.

Note: Rest of U.S.(RUS) salary information is provided above. Your actual salary will be adjusted according to the locality.

Who May Apply: Open to all U.S. Citizens

- You may also be eligible to apply to: <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/410460700>

- For definitions of terms found in this announcement, please see http://www.dhs.gov/xabout/careers/gc_1303762131481.shtm.

Organizational Location: These positions are located within U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Office of Field Operations, Laredo Field Office, Laredo, TX; New Orleans Field Office, New Orleans, LA, Mobile, AL and Memphis, TN and New York Field Office, Queens (JFK Airport) and the Port of Newark/NY, NJ.

One or more selections may be made using this job opportunity announcement.

The open period for this job opportunity announcement may be extended to allow for a sufficient applicant pool.

Duties

In this Import Specialist position, you will become a key member of a team of homeland security professionals responsible for all import requirements. Typical work assignments include:

- Determining admissibility of merchandise and making other import-related decisions
- Screening entry document packages for full range of regulatory and legal requirements
- Verifying tariff classification and appraising imported articles and products

Travel Required

- Occasional Travel
- You may be required to travel.

Relocation Authorized

- No

Key Requirements

- You must be a U.S. Citizen to apply for this position
- You may be required to pass a background investigation and/or polygraph
- Males born after 12/31/1959 must be registered with Selective Service
- Primary U.S. residency for the last three years (see "Other Information")
- You may be required to pass initial and random drug testing

Qualifications

GS-5: You qualify at the GS-5 level if you possess three years of progressively responsible experience. The experience must demonstrate that you have the ability to: analyze problems, identify significant factors, gather pertinent data, and recognize solutions; plan and organize work; communicate effectively orally and in writing, and deal effectively with others in person-to-person situations. Such experience may have been gained in administrative, professional, technical, investigative, or other responsible work and is qualifying if it provides evidence of the knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to perform the duties of this position. Experience of a general clerical nature (typing, filing, routine procedural processing, maintaining records, or other non-specialized tasks) is not creditable.

GS-7: You qualify at the GS-7 level if you possess one year of specialized experience that equipped you with the ability to explain procedures or requirements to elicit cooperative response. In addition, you must possess ONE of the following: 1) ability to apply specialized knowledge of laws, regulations, rulings, or instructions pertaining to the importation of merchandise into the United States, or 2) ability to gather, organize, and evaluate facts and evidence. Examples include screening a limited number of import documents for the presence of required documents (e.g., a properly signed Form A), reviewing prescribed trade statistics on the official Customs entry document for agreement with information contained in commercial invoices; and/or finding, applying, and explaining the significance of key administrative and legal rulings pertaining to particular commodities or import situations.

EDUCATION SUBSTITUTION:

GS-5: Successful completion of a full 4-year course of study in any field leading to a bachelor's degree, in an accredited college or university, may be substituted for experience at the GS-5 grade level. One year of full-time undergraduate study is defined as 30 semester hours or 45-quarter hours.

GS-7: You may substitute superior academic achievement for the experience required at the GS-7 level. You must have completed the requirements for a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university with a grade point average of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale, class standing in the upper third of a graduating class or major subdivision, or membership in a national scholastic honor society.

You may also substitute successful completion of one year of full-time graduate education for the experience required at the GS-7 level. This education must have been obtained from an accredited college or university and demonstrate the skills necessary to do the work of the position. A course of study in business administration, public administration, or related fields is qualifying. Check with your school to determine how many credit hours comprise a year of graduate education. If that information is not available, use 18 semester or 27 quarter hours.

Combining Experience and Education: Appropriate combinations of successfully completed post-high school education and experience also may be used to meet total qualification requirements for the GS-5, 7, 9, and 11 grade levels. To combine your education and experience, you must convert each to a percentage and then add the percentages. The combined total of your percentage of education and experience must equal at least 100% in order to qualify. If your education is currently described in quarter hours, convert the quarter hours into semester hours by multiplying the quarter hours by the fraction 2/3. To calculate your percentage of graduate education, divide the number of graduate semester hours by 18. To determine your percentage of qualifying experience, you must divide your total number of months of qualifying experience by the required number of months of experience. Add your percentages of education and experience. The two percentages must total at least 100%.

You must meet all qualification requirements, including education, if applicable, subject to verification at any stage of the application process by Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Experience refers to paid and unpaid experience, including volunteer work done through National Service programs (e.g., Peace Corps, AmeriCorps) and other organizations (e.g., professional; philanthropic; religious; spiritual; community, student, social). Volunteer work helps build critical competencies, knowledge, and skills and can provide valuable training and experience that translates directly to paid employment. You will receive credit for all qualifying experience, including volunteer experience.

Training: You may be required to attend and successfully complete seven (7) weeks of Import Specialist training at the Field Office Training Academy in Charleston, SC.

Polygraph Examination: Appointment to this position may require the successful completion of a polygraph examination.

Security Clearance

Public Trust - Background Investigation

What To Expect Next

Once the job opportunity announcement has closed, we will assess your experience and training, identify the best qualified applicants, and refer those applications to the hiring manager for further consideration and interviews. You will be notified by email after each of those steps has been completed. Stay informed of changes to your application status by signing up for automatic email alerts at: <https://my.usajobs.gov/Account/NotificationSettings.aspx>. If you are referred, you will receive a final notification of the disposition of the announcement. We expect to make a tentative job offer within 60 days after the close of the announcement. If you are selected, we may conduct a suitability/security background investigation.

BENEFITS

DHS offers competitive starting salaries and an attractive benefits package, including: health, vision, dental, life and long-term insurance, Thrift Savings Plan (similar to a 401(k)), Flexible Spending Account, retirement plan, Employee Assistance Program, personal leave days and paid Federal holidays. Other benefits may include: flexible work schedules, telework, tuition reimbursement, transportation subsidies, uniform allowance, health and wellness programs, and fitness centers. DHS is committed to employee development and offers a variety of employee training and development opportunities. For more information, go to www.dhs.gov/careers and select "Benefits".

Relocation expenses **will not** be paid. To compare cost of living data, calculate mortgage scenarios, or gather information on communities and school districts, please visit the website:

<http://www.relocationessentials.com/aff/lifecare/tools/salary/col.aspx>

Other Information

Residency: If you are not currently a CBP employee, you must meet one or more of the following primary residency criteria for the last three years prior to applying to this announcement:

1. Resided in the United States or its protectorate or territories (excluding short trips abroad, such as vacations);
2. Worked for the United States government as an employee overseas in a federal or military capacity; or
3. Been a dependent of a United States federal or military employee serving overseas.

Exceptions may be granted if you provide complete state-side coverage information regarding participation in "Study Abroad" programs, overseas church missions, or state-side addresses of anyone who worked or studied with you overseas. You must provide information and related documentation at the time of application.

Background Investigation: Customs and Border Protection (CBP) is a federal law enforcement agency that requires all applicants to undergo a thorough background investigation prior to employment in order to promote the agency's core values of vigilance, service to country and integrity. During the screening and/or background investigation process, you will be asked questions regarding any felony criminal convictions or current felony charges, the use of illegal drugs (i.e., marijuana, cocaine, heroin, LSD, methamphetamines, ecstasy) and the use of non-prescribed controlled substances including any experimentation, possession, sale, receipt, manufacture, cultivation, production, transfer, shipping, trafficking, or distribution of controlled substances. Entry into this position may require that you successfully pass a polygraph examination. For more information, please see:

http://www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/careers/apply/mandatory_back_invest.xml.

Positions with known promotion potential do not guarantee promotion, nor is the promise of promotion implied.

Probationary Period: All employees new to the federal government must serve a one year probationary period during the first year of his/her initial permanent federal appointment to determine fitness for continued employment. Current and former federal employees may be required to serve or complete a probationary period.

This position is covered under the bargaining unit.

CBP uses E-Verify, an Internet-based system, to confirm the eligibility of all newly hired employees to work in the United States. Learn more about E-Verify here, <http://www.uscis.gov/e-verify>, including your rights and responsibilities.

Every individual receives a fair opportunity throughout the Federal recruitment and hiring process. To learn more, click on the link https://hru.gov/Studio_Recruitment/tools/Mythbuster_on_Federal_Hiring_Policies.pdf

Follow U.S. Customs and Border Protection on Twitter [@CustomsBorder](https://twitter.com/CustomsBorder)

Please view the video "Protecting America 24/7" to learn more about CBP's Office of Field Operations:

http://cbpapps.cbp.dhs.gov/fo/2011/protecting_america/pro_america.wmv

To begin your online application, click "**Apply Online**" to create a USAJOBS account and follow the prompts or log in to your existing account. Your application packet must include a completed assessment questionnaire, a resume, and any applicable and/or required supporting documentation. Please see the "Required Documents" section below for additional information. All application materials, including transcripts, must be in English.

We strongly encourage you to apply online. If you cannot apply online, you may fax your resume, assessment questionnaire, and supporting documents to **(478) 757-3144**. You must print a copy of and document your responses to the assessment questionnaire [View Occupational Questionnaire](http://www.opm.gov/Forms/pdf_fill/OPM1203fx.pdf) using OPM Form 1203-FX

http://www.opm.gov/Forms/pdf_fill/OPM1203fx.pdf, and the official fax cover

sheet: <http://staffing.opm.gov/pdf/usascover.pdf>. Please include job opportunity announcement ID 1460436 and provide

your SSN, name, and address using the exact name you used when you filled out the questionnaire. If you have uploaded documents into your application, you do not need to fax those same documents.

Applications and supporting documentation will not be accepted by mail or email. The address below is for inquiries only. You may apply more than once, but the most recent application is the only one that will be used. **You must submit your resume, your online questionnaire, and any supporting documents by 11:59 PM Eastern Time on Wednesday, July 29, 2015**

How You Will Be Evaluated

We will review your resume and supporting documentation to ensure you meet the basic qualification requirements. If you meet the minimum qualifications, we will use an online self-assessment questionnaire to place you in one of three categories based on your experience, education and training. Your entire application package will then be reviewed. The final determination will be based on all the information provided in your application package.

If you meet the minimum qualifications, you will be placed in one of the following categories:

- **Best Qualified:** Applicants possessing a background that demonstrates a superior level of all evaluation criteria.
- **Well-Qualified:** Applicants possessing a background that demonstrates a satisfactory level of the evaluation criteria.
- **Qualified:** Applicants possessing the basic qualifications, with general knowledge, skills, and abilities.

If you are best qualified, you may be referred to the hiring manager for consideration and may be called for an interview. To preview the job questionnaire, see [View Occupational Questionnaire](#)

Knowledge, Skills, Abilities and Other Characteristics (KSAOs): Candidates who meet the minimum qualification requirements are required to possess certain Knowledge, Skills, Abilities, or Other Characteristics (KSAOs) to successfully perform the functions of this position. Candidates will be asked to demonstrate their attainment of these KSAOs in their resume. The KSAOs are:

- Knowledge of Federal laws, rules, regulations and precedents that apply to the admissibility, classification and appraisal of imported merchandise
- Ability to make import-related decisions and judgments and ensure compliance with legal, regulatory and administrative requirements
- Knowledge of computer software to effectively document and retrieve electronic information to support the decision-making process
- Ability to effectively communicate both orally and in writing to explain tariff classification decisions
- Ability to analyze various kinds of data and information to identify compliance errors and problems and to recommend corrective action

Agency Career Transition Assistance Program (CTAP) or the Interagency Career Transition Assistance Program (ICTAP)

Eligibles: If you have never worked for the Federal government, you are not CTAP/ICTAP eligible. Information about ICTAP or CTAP eligibility can be found at:

[http://www.opm.gov/Reduction In Force/employee_resources/ctap/Employee-Guideline CTAP.asp#3a](http://www.opm.gov/Reduction%20In%20Force/employee_resources/ctap/Employee-Guideline_CTAP.asp#3a). To be considered well qualified under CTAP/ICTAP, you must be placed in the Well-Qualified category for this position, as described above. In addition, you must submit the supporting documents listed in the "Required Documents" section of this announcement.

Veterans: Qualified veterans who have a compensable service-connected disability of at least 10% are listed in the best-qualified category, except when the position being filled is scientific or professional at the GS-09 grade level, or higher. (This position is not considered scientific/professional.) Other 10-point preference eligibles and veterans with 5-point preference who meet the eligibility and qualification requirements are placed above non-preference eligibles within the category in which they qualify. For more information on veteran's preference, please see: <http://www.fedshirevets.gov/index.aspx>

Your resume: A resume describing your job-related qualifications is required and will be used for the purpose of reviewing your qualifications and determining what training, if any, would be required when placed. Your resume must be in English and must include your job titles and a detailed description of your duties and the dates you performed them (MM/DD/YY), as well as your hours per week for each position listed. Your resume should also contain your full name, address, phone

number, email address, and salary. NOTE: Resumes stored on USAJOBS will not automatically carry over to this announcement. You must upload or fax your resume and any other applicable supporting documentation.

Your responses to the job questionnaire [View Occupational Questionnaire](#)

Are you qualifying based on education? Submit a copy of your college transcript (unofficial is acceptable at this time; however, official copies will be required prior to entrance on duty) or a list of coursework with hours completed. Education must be from an institution accredited by an agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. Education obtained from a foreign university or college is not creditable unless it has been evaluated by an organization that specializes in interpretation of education credentials. For a listing of accrediting agencies, please see <http://www.naces.org/members.htm>.

Are you claiming special priority selection rights under the Agency Career Transition Assistance Program (CTAP) or the Interagency Career Transition Assistance Program (ICTAP)? You must submit a separation notice; your most recent SF-50B (noting your current position, grade level and duty location); a current (or a last) performance rating of record of at least fully successful or equivalent; an agency certification that you cannot be placed after injury compensation has been terminated; an OPM notification that your disability annuity has been terminated; or a Military Department of National Guard Bureau notification that you are retired under 5 U.S.C. 8337(h) or 8456.

Are you a veteran? To apply veteran's preference you must submit the following proof of eligibility:

Five Point Preference: DD 214 (Member Copy 4-reflecting qualifying medal(s) or service period)

Ten Point Preference: DD 214 (Member Copy 4) and supporting documentation as listed on the Standard Form 15 (application for 10-Point Veteran's Preference). Click this link for a copy of the SF-15:

http://www.opm.gov/forms/pdf_fill/SF15.pdf. Veterans with a service-connected disability must also submit a VA Disability Award letter dated 1991 or later

If you are currently serving on active duty, you must submit a written statement from the armed forces certifying your dates of service and your rank. If you apply with a written statement at this stage, your preference will be verified by a DD 214 (Member Copy 4) upon separation from the military.

For more information about veteran's preference, please click this link:

<http://www.opm.gov/employ/veterans/html/vetguide.asp>. Please upload veterans documents under miscellaneous documents.

It is your responsibility to verify that any information entered, uploaded, or faxed is received and is accurate. Human Resources will not modify or change any part of your application. If a document is not legible, you will not be able to view it in your application and you must again upload or fax it by the closing date.

Few vacancies in the following locations

- 📍 Mobile, AL
- 📍 New Orleans, LA
- 📍 Newark, NJ
- 📍 Queens, NY
- 📍 Memphis, TN
- 📍 Laredo, TX




Department Of Homeland Security

Customs and Border Protection

Contact

CBP HIRING OFO STAFFING

Phone: (952)857-2932 

Email: CBPHIRING-OFOSTAFFING@CBP.DHS.GOV

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